

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 03376 171456Z  
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13  
AID-05 /072 W

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R 171411Z DEC 76  
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4650  
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 3376

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, ZA  
SUBJ: KAPWEPWE BIDS TO REJOIN UNIP?

SUMMARY: DAILY MAIL FRONT PAGE DEC 17 IS DOMINATED BY  
HEADLINE "KAPWEPWE BIDS TO REJOIN UNIP." TEXT OF STORY  
PUTS KAPWEPWE'S "BID" IN CONTEXT OF ONGOING DISCUSSIONS  
BETWEEN PRESIDENT KAUNDA AND KAPWEPWE, WHICH ARE  
NOT NEW. PRINCIPAL THRUST OF KAPWEPWE ARTICLE IS A  
WARNING TO KAPWEPWE'S FOLLOWERS FROM MINISTER OF HOME  
AFFAIRS MILNER THAT EITHER THEY STOP MEETING CLANDESTINELY  
OR THEY FACE IMMEDIATE ARREST. GRZ IS CONCERNED THAT  
KAPWEPWE'S UPP IS TRYING TO STAGE A COME BACK. MILNER'S  
HINT THAT KAPWEPWE IS MOVING TOWARDS REJOINING UNIP AND  
HIS WARNING THAT UPP ADHERENTS ARE SUBJECT TO IMMEDIATE ARREST  
HAS THE APPEARANCE OF PART OF A CAMPAIGN TO CONVINCE UPP  
FOLLOWERS THAT THEY HAVE NOTHING TO GAIN FROM BACKING KAPWEPWE.  
END SUMMARY.

1. SPEAKING TO A MEETING IN CHINGOLA DEC 15, HOME  
AFFAIRS MINISTER MILNER SAID KAPWEPWE AND SOME MEMBERS  
OF HIS GROUP HAVE HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH KAUNDA WITH A  
VIEW TO REJOINING UNIP. MEETING WITH KAUNDA HAD  
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FOLLOWED SEVERAL PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN MILNER  
AND KAPWEPWE AND HAD TAKEN PLACE AT KAPWEPWE'S REQUEST.  
"I HAVE ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS MET MR. KAPWEPWE, MR.  
CHISATA AND MR. CHIMBA...TO TRY TO BRING THESE BROTHERS  
BACK TO UNIP AND I HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE IMPRESSION THEY  
ARE WILLING TO DO SO." NO TIME FRAME FOR MILNER'S AND

THE PRESIDENT'S MEETINGS WITH KAPWEPWE WERE GIVEN.

2. MILNER WENT ON TO SAY THAT, DESPITE THE "APPARENT" WILLINGNESS OF UPP LEADERS TO REJOIN UNIP, SOME OF THEM WERE ENGAGED IN "DARK CORNER MEETINGS." THESE LEADERS ARE WORKING WITH MALCONTENTS, ESPECIALLY IN THE COPPERBELT, WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF ORGANIZING VOTES FOR THE UPP IN THE 1978 ELECTIONS. CERTAIN UPP LEADERS ARE BEGINNING TO ORGANIZE PEOPLE ALONG TRIBAL LINES IN READINESS FOR THE ELECTIONS. KAPWEPWE SHOULD FORGET ABOUT THESE "RADICALS AND EXTREMISTS" IN HIS OUTLAWED PARTY AND REJOIN UNIP.

3. AS FOR THOSE WHO PERSIST IN ILLEGAL POLITICAL ACTIVITY, MILNER SAID HE HAD ISSUED ORDERS THAT EX-UPP LEADERS OR MEMBERS FOUND ORGANIZING OR ATTENDING SUBVERSIVE MEETINGS BE ARRESTED ON THE SPOT. MILNER SAID HE DID NOT WANT TO RECEIVE REPORTS ABOUT ILLEGAL EX-UPP ACTIVITY. FROM NOW ON "I WANT TO HEAR THAT UPP ACTIVISTS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED, BECAUSE SECRET MEETINGS ARE ILLEGAL."

3. IN CLOSING, MILNER AFFIRMED THAT THE MALCONTENTS ACTIVE ON THE COPPERBELT WERE WASTING THEIR TIME. THEY WON'T ACHIEVE ANYTHING BECAUSE THE PEOPLE ARE FIRMLY BEHIND PRESIDENT KAUNDA AND THE PARTY.

COMMENT: THERE HAVE BEEN MEETINGS BETWEEN KAPWEPWE AND KAUNDA DURING THE LAST YEAR DESIGNED TO BRING KAPWEPWE BACK TO THE UNIP FOLD. THEY HAVE YET TO BE SUCCESSFUL. KAPWEPWE'S PRECONDITIONS FOR A RECONCILIATION HAVE BEEN CONFIDENTIAL

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UNACCEPTABLE TO KAUNDA. KAPWEPWE REPORTEDLY DEMANDED AT ONE POINT THAT THE ONE PARTY SYSTEM BE ABANDONED. HE IS REPORTED ALSO TO HAVE INSISTED THAT HE BE PERMITTED TO RUN FOR PARLIAMENT. KAUNDA REJECTED THE ABANDONMENT OF THE ONE PARTY SYSTEM OUT OF HAND. HE IS LOATH TO PERMIT KAPWEPWE TO RUN FOR PARLIAMENT BUT MAY BE WILLING TO OFFER HIM A MINISTERIAL POSITION. KAPWEPWE IS NOT TO OUR KNOWLEDGE PREPARED TO REDUCE HIS DEMANDS. THE MEETING OF KAPWEPWE AND KAUNDA CITED BY MILNER SHOULD BE VIEWED IN THE CONTEXT OF THIS ONGOING DIALOGUE, NOT AS A DRAMATIC BREAKTHROUGH. UNIP OFFICIALS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT REPORTED UPP ACTIVITY IN THE COPPERBELT AND ARE WORRIED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT UNIP WILL NOT SHOW UP WELL IN THE 1978 ELECTIONS. MILNER IN HIS SPEECH SEEMED TO BE AIMING AT TAKING THE STEAM OUT OF THE UPP BY INDICATING THAT ITS TOP LEADERSHIP IS ABOUT TO JOIN UNIP AND WARNING THAT UPP MEMBERS WILL BE ARRESTED ON THE SPOT IF THEY PURSUE THEIR POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.

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## Message Attributes

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